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Per 2C. SUTTON

Letters to the Journal-World Editor Local Future, Opry Humor, CIA

DEFENSE OF THE CIA

Editor, Journal-World:

I do not agree with the general theme of your editorial of March 12, "The Evasive CIA." While I would not dispute any American's right to openly question the operations of any governmental agency, you have based your one-sided opinions on two highly publicized incidents that have thrown the black spotlight on the CIA. In

taking this one-sided negative approach, I feel you have erred.

I would caution you to keep in mind that the CIA prefers not to operate in the limelight of governmental affairs. To do so would defeat their purpose and cause the United States to lose a wealth of valuable information which is gained through the agency's efforts.

It is easy for some to condemn the CIA for the bad publicity it has received on two occasions. However, I think it would be well for all Americans to consider the possibilities of the unpublicized successes the agency has had since its inception as well as the knowledge gained from its activities in unfriendly lands before passing final judgment and offering suggestions that its operations become more publicized merely to appease the speculative public which it is designed to protect.

Charles Sutton

Graduate Assistant
School of Business
Indiana University